

Message Text

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ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 ACDA-07 MC-02 TRSE-00 L-03

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 EB-07 COME-00 AID-05 IGA-02

OMB-01 SS-15 /064 W

----- 051945

R 131626Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8316

INFO SECDEF ISA/DSAA WASHDC

USCINCEUR ECJ4/7 VAIHINGEN GER

CSAF LGF WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L RABAT 2049

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS MO

SUBJECT: F-5E/F LOA; AIR DEFENSE RADAR

1. SUMMARY: AIR FORCE CHIEF KABBAJ STATES THAT GOM NEEDS ALL OF THE F-5E AIRCRAFT BY SEPTEMBER 1976. HE HAS ALSO INFORMED US THAT DECISION NOT YET TAKEN ON PROJECTED AIR DEFENSE RADAR SYSTEM. END SUMMARY.

2. CHIEF MUSLO PRESENTED CPT T. NEWARK, USN, TO AIR FORCE CHIEF KABBAJ IN COURTESY CALL APRIL 6. (CPT NEWARK IS TEAM CHIEF OF THE EUCOM IG TEAM WHICH WAS INSPECTING MUSLO - KABBAJ CHOSEN FOR CALL BECAUSE HE IS HIGHEST RANKING MOROCCAN OFFICER WHO SPEAKS ENGLISH). CPT NEWARK EXPLAINED HIS MISSION TO KABBAJ AND NOTED THIS WAS OPPORTUNITY FOR KABBAJ TO EXPRESS VIEWS ON ASSISTANCE BEING PROVIDED BY MUSLO. KABBAJ REPLIED THAT HE WAS SATISFIED WITH HIS RELATIONSHIP WITH MUSLO BUT WAS NOT VERY HAPPY WITH OTHER ELEMENTS OF USG. HE SAID HE WAS PERPLEXED THAT USG DID NOT UNDERSTAND THAT HE WANTED AND NEEDED ALL OF THE F-5E AIRCRAFT BY SEPTEMBER 1976 AND COULD NOT CONSIDER DELIVERIES AFTER THAT DATE. HE HAD NOW BEEN PROMISED DELIVERIES OF MIRAGE AIRCRAFT STARTING IN ELEVEN MONTHS (MARCH 1977). HE WANTED ALL OF THE F-5S DELIVERED AND INTEGRATED INTO A SQUADRON BEFORE START
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OF MIRAGE DELIVERIES. CHMUSLO PROMISED TO ADVISE USG OF KABBAJ'S

VIEWS.

3. CHMUSLO DELIVERED F-5 LOA EXTENSION TO COL KABBAJ ON APRIL 8. KABBAJ SCANNED TEXT OF LETTER AND REMARKED THAT THE \$300,000 ADDED COST WOULD PROBABLY BE MORE THAN OFFSET BY DECREASE IN AVIONICS COSTS. (COMMENT: ALTHOUGH HE DID NOT EXPLAIN, HE MAY HAVE MEANT REDUCED AVIONICS COSTS RESULTING FROM EARLY DELIVERIES). KABBAJ WAS IN JOVIAL MOOD AND SEEMED DISINCLINED TO DISCUSS BUSINESS, BUT CHMUSLO PRESSED AS TO STATUS OF RMAF'S PROJECTED AIR DEFENSE RADAR SYSTEM. CHMUSLO NOTED THAT WESTINGHOUSE REPRESENTATIVES HAD WANTED TO VISIT MOROCCO TO DISCUSS THE POTENTIAL SALE BUT HAD BEEN INFORMED THAT THOMPSON OF FRANCE HAD ALREADY BEEN AWARDED CONTRACT FOR THE SYSTEM. KABBAJ STATED THAT DECISION HAD NOT BEEN MADE AND WESTINGHOUSE REPRESENTATIVES WERE WELCOME TO COME WITH A PROPOSAL IF IT CONTAINED A CEILING PRICE. PROPOSAL WOULD THEN BE EVALUATED AGAINST THE THOMPSON PROPOSAL WITH RESPECT TO PRICE, QUALITY AND DELIVERY TIME. COMMENT: MUSLO WAS TOLD BY LTCOL SAIDI, DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS, RMAF, ON MARCH 31 THAT MATTER HAD BEEN DECIDED. THIS WAS SUPPORTED AT THE TIME BY RMAF REFUSAL TO DISCUSS IT WITH EITHER HUGHES OR ITT. END COMMENT.

ANDERSON

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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